3: Barrett E-5 (1908-1909)1925
SD6 Cayapa SD6

bush absorbs the moisture, causing it to soften and ultimately to decay; but if kept in a dry place when not in use, it may be of service indefinitely. Although the walls of one of these calabashes are not more than a sixteenth to an eighth of an inch in thickness, they bear a considerable strain, as when used in bailing canoes. Inasmuch as canoes are always left over night in the river, they often become more or less filled by rain during the night, consequently the need of calabash bailers is very great. On arising in the morning it is the duty of some member of the family, if the day is fair, to go to the river with a mate and bail out all of the canoes, both those of the members of the household and those of visitors.

The advantages of a mate over a pottery or other heavy vessel are apparent: it is easily made, fairly durable, and very light. Its lightness and portability are of special advantage in traveling by canoe, when every pound saved is important; moreover, it will not sink should it be dropped overboard. In fact, advantage is taken of the lightness of the mate in the following interesting manner: Some canoes are very long, and when fully loaded in their center it is impossible for a person in the prow to pass anything, such as food, to one in the stern. Therefore, in event of such need, it is necessary only to place the article in a mate, set the mate in the water, and as the stern of the canoe passes it, it is picked up. To pass any small object, such as a knife, it is usually placed on the blade of one of the long paddles and passed over the cargo. Obviously this could not be done with a round-bottomed mate, especially if it contained liquid.

case the leaves are brought to the site by hand. Many times the leaves have to be freighted on the river; for these occasions two canoes are joined by heavy bamboo poles, thus forming a raft, and the leaves are piled on top to a height of four to five feet. Two men then pilot the raft, one from the rear and one from the front. When the site is reached, the raft is tied to a paddle which is thrust into the bank, and the leaves are handed up a human chain composed of five to ten people extending from the raft to the actual house site.

In contrast to the Negro houses Cayapa houses mostly lack walls. Because of this, Cayapa home life is much more open to Negro inspection than is the reverse. In regard to construction, the Cayapa never use wood planking. Negroes, on the other hand, regard wooden planking for the floors and walls as a sign of wealth and try to have at least some planking. The underside of the house for both Negroes and Indians serves as a storage area for the canoes.

When they are off in the bush for several days hunting, or when roughing out a canoe, the Cayapa build